

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 2008-212-C - ORDER NO. 2008-423

JUNE 17, 2008

IN RE: Petition of the AT&T Companies to Initiate)	ORDER GRANTING
an Investigation and to Intervene on the)	AT&T PETITION TO
Tariff Filing by MCImetro Access)	INTERVENE,
Transmission Services, LLC d/b/a Verizon)	REQUESTING ORS
Access Transmission Services to Introduce)	INVESTIGATE, AND
8YY Toll Free Transit Traffic Service -)	SUSPENDING TARIFF
Reference Tariff No. 2008-62)	NO. 2008-62

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (“Commission”) on a petition from AT&T Communications of the Southern States, LLC, BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. d/b/a AT&T South Carolina, and BellSouth Long Distance, Inc. d/b/a AT&T Long Distance Service (collectively “AT&T”) to: (1) initiate an investigation of Tariff No. 2008-62 filed by MCImetro Access Transmission Services, LLC d/b/a Verizon Access Transmission Services (“Verizon”) to introduce 8YY Toll Free Transit Traffic Service, (2) allow AT&T to intervene and participate as a party in that investigation, and (3) suspend the tariff filing during the investigation. Verizon submitted Tariff No. 2008-62 to the Commission on April 21, 2008. AT&T states the Tariff is problematic because it both inadequately describes the service it intends to provide and how Verizon intends to bill for that service, potentially allowing the company to charge for access service components it is not actually providing.

Specifically, AT&T claims Verizon's Tariff does not require complete compliance with the Multiple Exchange Carrier Access Billing ("MECAB") guidelines to ensure that all carriers handling this type of traffic have the necessary records to bill for the services provided to complete these calls. AT&T asserts that it pays Verizon intrastate terminating switched access rates to terminate intrastate interexchange calls placed by AT&T's customers and may be required to pay originating intrastate switched access under Verizon's tariff filing. It further states that Verizon's Tariff blends rate elements that prevent identification of what specific access elements are being applied and a verification of whether those functions are being provided as well as how the billed charges are being calculated. AT&T indicates that this blending of rates creates the potential for overbilling interexchange carriers for functions it does not perform.

AT&T's other concerns with Verizon's Tariff include the lack of agreement with third party providers to adhere to MECAB guidelines, and whether it is appropriate for Verizon to bill an interexchange carrier for the full Direct End Office Trunk facility while also billing the interexchange carrier for per minute usage on calls traversing that facility. We find these issues and the issues above require investigation. Additionally, we find that Tariff No. 2008-62 should be suspended until such an investigation is completed and these issues are resolved. Lastly, we find that AT&T should be allowed to intervene in this Docket.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1 The Commission requests the Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS"), under the authority of S.C. Code Ann. §§ 58-3-200 (Supp. 2007) and 58-4-50(A)(2) (Supp.

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2007), to inspect the above mentioned issues with Verizon Tariff No. 2008-62 and report back to the Commission within 30 days of the date of this Order.

2. Tariff No. 2008-62 is suspended until such time as ORS reports back to the Commission and any or all issues are resolved.

3. AT&T may intervene as a party in this Docket.

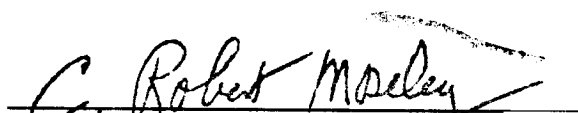
4. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:



G. O'Neal Hamilton, Chairman

ATTEST:


C. Robert Moseley, Vice Chairman

(SEAL)